

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 188169  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-01 CU-04 USIA-06 /024 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:JMSEYMOUR, JR:LG

APPROVED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS

-----065109 101033Z /12

R 092349Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

INFO AMCONSUL KRAKOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, PL

SUBJECT: KOSCIUSZKO PLAQUE

REF: WARSAW 5468

1. DEPARTMENT ON AUGUST 9 CONVEYED MESSAGE IN REFTEL TO MR. ZACHARIASIEWICZ, WHO PROMISED TO CONSULT POLONIA OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS PLANNING TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY TO SEE IF THEY WOULD AGREE TO POSTPONING IT. HE EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF THE EMBASSY'S REASONING BUT INDICATED THAT MANY PEOPLE INVOLVED HAVE MADE PLANS THAT WILL NOT BE EASY TO ADJUST. HE ADDED THAT THE OCTOBER 17 DATE FOR THE CEREMONY HAS ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY AND INSCRIBED IN CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI'S RESOLUTION. NEVERTHELESS, ZACHARIASIEWICZ AGREED THAT CARDINAL WOJTYLA'S PRESENCE WOULD ENHANCE THE IMPACT OF THE EVENT IN POLAND AND ITS IMPORTANCE TO POLISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

2. ZACHARIASIEWICZ SAID THAT IF THE DATE IS CHANGED, HE

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WOULD HAVE TO EXPLAIN PUBLICLY THAT THIS WAS DONE TO PERMIT CARDINAL WOJTYLA'S PARTICIPATION. ZACHARIASIEWICZ WONDERED IF THIS OBVIOUS ARRANGEMENT FOR CARDINAL WOJTYLA'S PRESENCE WOULD CREATE PROBLEMS WITH POLISH AUTHORITIES. WE ADVISED THAT THIS SHOULD POSE NO PROBLEM, BUT ZACHARIASIEWICZ

REQUESTED THE EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT ON THIS QUESTION.

3. ZACHARIASIEWICZ NOTED THAT THE ZABLOCKI RESOLUTION PASSED AUGUST 3 MENTIONS OCTOBER 17 AS THE DATE FOR THE WAWEL CEREMONY. HE ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS NEED NOT BE AN OBSTACLE TO CHANGING THE DATE. THE DEPARTMENT WILL SEND THE TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION WHEN AVAILABLE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR JUDGMENT SOONEST ON THE QUESTION RAISED BY ZACHARIASIEWICZ ABOUT PUBLICLY EXPLAINING A CHANGE IN THE DATE IN TERMS OF CARDINAL WOJTYLA'S PRESENCE. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Drafter:** JMSEYMOUR, JR:LG  
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**TAGS:** SCUL, PL, (WOJTYLA, CARDINAL)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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